FOR IMMEDIATE **THEILE AS**/ENovember 14, 2002 CONTACT: Colleen Kroll (202) 225-5235

## "CONGRESSMAN BOYD SUPPORTS PASSAGE OF CONCURRENT RECEIPT"

WASHINGTON, DC- Earlier this week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Defense Authorization Bill, which included the benefit package for military retirees known as concurrent receipt. Congressman Boyd has been a long time supporter of concurrent receipt, and supported this measure as a first step towards rewarding this benefit to those who served in our nation's armed forces.

The measure that passed on Tuesday partially undoes a century old law that has not allowed military retirees to receive both a full pension and a disability payment. The new law states that any retiree who has been wounded by enemy combatants will be eligible to receive both pension and disability, or full concurrent receipt. The new law also states that other retirees who can prove their injuries were related to combat, training, or hazardous duty can also receive the benefit, if they are deemed at least 60% disabled by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"This was a great first step towards ensuring the men and women who have served our country receive the full benefits they are entitled," said Congressman Boyd. Al am very pleased with the bill that was passed this week, but I will continue to work so that all disabled retirees can receive full concurrent receipt."